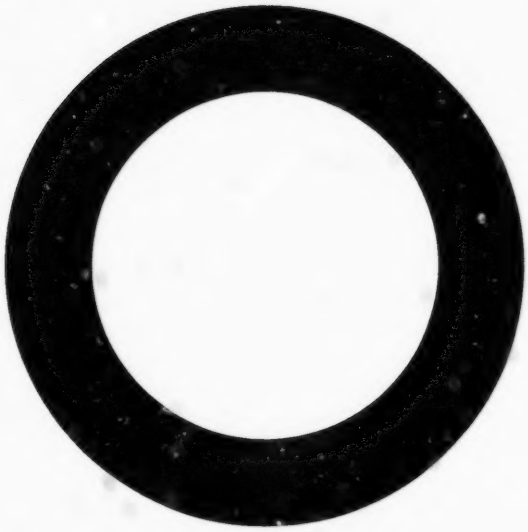

United Nations A/C.1/56/L.59

General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
First Committee
Agenda item 75 (a)
Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly: Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.2

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 6-12, 15 and 16 of draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.2, the General Assembly would:

(a) Welcome the creation of a mechanism for the promotion, maintenance and consolidation of peace and security in Central Africa, to be known as the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa, by the summit Conference of the Heads of State and Government of the member countries of the Economic Community of Central African States, held at Yaoundé on 25 February 1999, and request the Secretary-General to give his full support to the effective realization of that important mechanism;

(b) Emphasize the need to make the early-warning mechanism in Central Africa operational so that it will serve, on the one hand, as an instrument for analysing and monitoring political situations in the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with a view to preventing the outbreak of future armed conflicts and, on the other hand, as a technical body through which the member States will carry out the programme of work of the Committee, adopted at its organizational meeting held at Yaoundé in 1992, and request the Secretary-General to provide it with the assistance necessary for it to function properly;

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(c) Request the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to lend all their support to the effective establishment and smooth functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

(d) Request the Secretary-General, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1197 (1998), to provide the States members of the Committee with the necessary support for the implementation and smooth functioning of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa and the early-warning mechanism;

(e) Request the Secretary-General to support the establishment of a network of parliamentarians with a view to the creation of a subregional parliament in Central Africa;

(f) Request the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to provide increased assistance to the countries of Central Africa for coping with the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

(g) Welcome with satisfaction the decision taken at the fourteenth ministerial meeting to organize a subregional conference on the protection of women and children in armed conflicts, and request the Secretary-General to lend all the necessary support for the holding of the conference;

(h) Request the Secretary-General to continue to provide the States members of the Committee with assistance to ensure that they are able to carry on their efforts;

(i) Request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the resolution.

II. Relationship of the proposed request to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and to the proposed programme of work for the biennium 2002-2003

2. The requests contained in operative paragraphs 6, 7, 9-12, 15 and 16 of the draft resolution are associated with programme 2, Disarmament, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as revised, and section 4, Disarmament, of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

3. The request contained in operative paragraph 8 of the draft resolution is associated with programme 19, Human rights, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and to section 22, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

4. The request contained in operative paragraph 11 of the draft resolution is associated with programme 21, Protection of and assistance to refugees, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, as revised, and section 23, Protection of and assistance to refugees, of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, as well as the programme of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

III. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

5. Implementation of the requests contained in operative paragraphs 15 and 16 of the draft resolution, regarding provision of assistance to the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and the submission of a report to the General Assembly, would be carried out within the resources provided under section 4 of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003. The provision contained therein covers substantive servicing of four plenary sessions of the Committee during the biennium.

6. The activities of the Committee, including those related to the implementation and functioning of the early-warning mechanism and the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa referred to in operative paragraphs 6, 7 and 9, as well as those related to the establishment of a network of parliamentarians referred to in operative paragraph 10 and those related to the organization of the subregional conference on the protection of women and children in armed conflicts referred to in operative paragraph 12 of the draf resolution, are expected to be funded from voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the Committee.

7. Activities proposed in operative paragraph 8 of the draft resolution are related to programme 19, Human rights, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, and to section 22, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003. The proposed activities relate to subprogramme 3.

8. It is recalled that, at its fifty-fourth session, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to provide the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa with adequate financial resources, and in this regard decided to appropriate an amount of one million dollars in the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001. The appropriation was made under section 22, Human rights.

9. It will also be recalled that in paragraph 22.45 of document A/56/6 (sect. 22), the Secretary-General stated that "The non-inclusion of resources in the biennium 2002-2003 on the Subregional Centre is without prejudice to such needs as may be demonstrated in the context of the report on activities to establish the Centre, which will be presented to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session". The report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the activities that have been carried out as well as those envisioned in connection with establishment of the Subregional Centre (A/56/36/Add.1) will be before the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

10. Should the draft resolution be adopted, the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights would continue to lend all their support to the effective establishment and smooth functioning of the Subregional Centre through the following activities to be carried out during the biennium 2002-2003:

A. Human rights activities

a. Training:

i. Human rights training session for political leaders, in the first semester of 2002;

ii. Human rights training session for media practitioners, in the second semester of 2002;

iii. Annual training course for civil servants and human rights defenders on international human rights mechanisms, to be held in June 2002 and June 2003.

b. Advisory services and technical cooperation:

i. Continuation of technical cooperation programme for the national human rights bodies;

ii. Provision of advisory services and technical cooperation to governments and NGOs, upon request;

iii. Support for strengthening the activities of human rights NGOs and networks.

c. Capacity-building in human rights and democracy:

i. Implementation of a fellowship programme;

ii. Development of a roster/resource bank of expertise in human rights and democracy in Central Africa, starting in January 2002.

d. External relations and partnerships:

i. Signature and application of a memorandum of understanding with ECCAS through its general secretariat;

ii. Development of partnerships with various national, African, and international organizations sharing the same goals as the Centre.

B. Activities related to democracy

The appointment of a Programme Officer on democracy would handle the Centre's programme of activities on the subject of democracy. The terms of reference of this position would include the following activities:

(a) Research and compile relevant documentation on democratization, both within the United Nations and in the countries of the subregion, and on progress in the democratization process in those countries;

(b) Study and assess technical cooperation needs for the subregion's democratization process;

(c) Develop a programme of activities and technical cooperation projects for the countries of the subregion, in consultation with all interested parties;

(d) Prepare and execute a strategy to integrate human rights and democratic principles into the United Nations activities and programmes on conflict prevention in the subregion;

(e) Develop education and training programmes for the promotion of democratic principles and the human rights aspects of democracy to target groups, in particular government authorities, political parties, media and civil society;

(f) Provide assistance to Governments, upon request, for the preparation of elections, the development and execution of training programmes and policies in the field of election monitoring, in cooperation with other United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations, concerned bodies and NGOs;

(g) Provide advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of democracy to countries of the subregion, as requested by Governments, United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations and representatives of the Secretary-General in Central Africa;

(h) Assist, at the request of Governments, in the creation and/or strengthening of national institutions responsible for managing activities related to democracy in their countries (ombudsmen, national electoral commissions etc.);

(i) Develop and strengthen cooperation networks in the subregion, including identifying potential areas of cooperation in the field of democracy;

(j) Provide training during workshops and other similar activities in the subregion;

(k) Undertake representational and other missions in the subregion, on behalf of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other entities of the United Nations Secretariat, as appropriate.

11. Implementation of the activities related to the request contained in operative paragraph 11 of the draft resolution, regarding increased assistance to the countries of Central Africa for coping with the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories, would be subject to the availability of voluntary contributions to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

IV. Modification required in the programme of work for 2002-2003

12. Modifications would not be required to programme 2, Disarmament, and programme 21, Protection of and assistance to refugees, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, or to sections 4 and 23 of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

13. The narrative of section 22 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 would be modified as shown below. Subject to the decision of the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, this narrative will be incorporated into the final version of the programme of work of section 22 of the programme budget for the 2002-2003 biennium.

Outputs

Paragraph 22.44 (d) (i) After the word "Cambodia", add the words "strengthening of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa, Yaoundé (Cameroon)".

V. Indication of additional requirements

14. Should the General Assembly approve draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.2, no additional requirements would arise under sections 4 and 23 of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

15. The additional requirements for the implementation of the programme of work elaborated in paragraph 10 above which are related to section 22, Human rights, are estimated at $1,000,000 to continue the present level of support as a subvention. The cost plan for allocation of the subvention would be as follows:

Additional requirements	*United States dollars*	
Positions to be funded:		
P-5 Head of Office	251 800[a]	
P-4 Programme Officer	211 600[a]	
P-3 Human Rights Officer	97 800[b]	
General Service (Administrative Assistant)	42 400[a]	
General Service (Documentalist)	42 400[a]	646 000
General Temporary Assistance (Driver/Messenger)		12 000
Consultants and experts:		
Four subregional workshops:		
International consultant (1 w/m at P-4 level) Fee, travel and DSA	22 000	
International consultant (1 w/m at P-4 level) Fee, travel and DSA	10 500	
Consultant (1 w/m at National Officer B rate) to develop a curriculum for the introduction of human rights in the courses of primary and secondary schools	3 000	
Consultant (1 w/m at National Officer B rate) to design a programme for the development of national institutions for human rights in Central Africa	3 000	38 500
Travel of 25 participants to each of four subregional training workshops		147 800
Travel of staff:		
International travel	15 900	
Travels within subregion	17 400	33 300
Contractual services:		
External printing and binding of newsletter		10 000
General operating expenses:		
Rental and maintenance of office premises	43 200	
Rental of conference space for workshops	2 000	
Utilities	7 200	
Rental of local transportation for workshops	1 000	
Communication costs	12 000	
Maintenance of furniture and equipment	6 000	
Maintenance of office automation equipment	6 000	77 400

Additional requirements	*United States dollars*	
Supplies and materials		
Stationery, office supplies etc.	6 000	
Library books and supplies	5 000	11 000
Fellowships		
Maintenance of office automation equipment		12 000
Joint administrative activities		12 000
Total		**1 000 000**

[a] Estimated at vacancy rate of 95 per cent for the Professional and higher-level categories and 98 per cent for the General Service category, since these positions have been filled in 2000-2001.

[b] Estimated at vacancy rate of 50 per cent in accordance with existing practice for new positions.

16. As mentioned in paragraph 9 above, no provision has been made under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 in relation to the Subregional Centre. At this stage, it is not anticipated that these requirements could be absorbed within the existing resources under section 22, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

VI. Contingency fund

17. It will be recalled that under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, a contingency fund is established each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from the legislative mandates not provided for in the approved programme budget. Under the same procedure, if additional expenditures proposed exceed resources available from the contingency fund, these activities can be implemented only through the redeployment of resources available from low-priority areas or the modification of existing activities.

18. Should it not prove possible to meet the cost required from the contingency fund, the activities and outputs to be carried out under section 22 foreseen for the biennium 2002-2003 would have to be further reprogrammed and modified beyond the proposals included in the present statement.

VII. Summary

19. **In summary, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.2, that decision would give rise to additional requirements for the biennium 2002-2003 under section 22, Human rights. No additional requirements would arise under sections 4 and 23.**

20. **It is not possible at this stage to identify activities within section 22 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium.**

21. **Consequently, an additional provision of $1,000,000 would be required over and above the resources proposed under section 22, Human rights, in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003. This provision would represent a charge against the contingency fund and, as such, would require an increase in appropriations for the biennium 2002-2003.**

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General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
First Committee
Agenda item 74
General and complete disarmament

Mexico: draft decision

United Nations conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers in the context of nuclear disarmament

The General Assembly decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session an item entitled "United Nations conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers in the context of nuclear disarmament".

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Agenda item 74
General and complete disarmament

The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.47

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 1, 2, 8, 10, 12 and 13 of draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.47, the General Assembly would:

(a) Decide to convene a Conference, no later than 2006, to review progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[1] the date and venue to be decided at its fifty-eighth session;

(b) Also decide to convene a meeting of States on a biennial basis, commencing in 2003, to consider the national, regional and global implementation of the Programme of Action;

(c) Request the Secretary-General to ensure that resources and expertise are made available to the Secretariat to promote the implementation of the Programme of Action;

(d) Request the Secretary-General to undertake a United Nations study, commencing during its fifty-sixth session, within available financial resources and with any other assistance provided by States in a position to do so, and with the assistance of governmental experts appointed by him on the basis of equitable geographical representation, while seeking the views of States, to examining the feasibility of developing an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace, in a timely and reliable manner, illicit small arms and light weapons and to submit the study to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

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(e) Request the Secretary-General, within existing resources, through the Department for Disarmament Affairs, to collate and circulate data and information provided by States on a voluntary basis, including national reports, on implementation by those States of the Programme of Action;

(f) Also request the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the resolution.

II. Relationship of the requests to the programme of work

2. The activities referred to above would fall under programme 2, Disarmament, and programme 6, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference services, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.[2]

III. Activities by which the requests would be implemented

3. Pursuant to operative paragraph 2, the Department for Disarmament Affairs would serve as the substantive secretariat for the biennial meeting of States in 2003.

4. Pursuant to operative paragraph 8, the Department for Disarmament Affairs would need to undertake additional initiatives aimed at promoting the implementation of the Programme of action on small arms and light weapons, such as liaising with relevant government officials and with subregional, regional and international organizations; conducting research on various aspects of the small arms and light weapons issue; carrying out advocacy and outreach programmes with various sectors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations; organizing seminars, workshops and training programmes at the international, regional and subregional levels aimed at enhancing the capacity of States to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons and at promoting cooperation and coordination among States.

5. Pursuant to operative paragraph 10, the Department for Disarmament Affairs would organize and service, in 2002 and 2003, three sessions of the group of governmental experts on the basis of equitable geographical representation and assist in preparing a report on the feasibility of developing an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace, in a timely and reliable manner, illicit small arms and light weapons.

6. Pursuant to operative paragraph 12, the Department for Disarmament Affairs would receive, collate and circulate data and information provided by States, on a voluntary basis, including national reports, on implementation by those States of the Programme of action. This would require, inter alia, the establishment of a computerized database that would store the submitted data and information.

IV. Modification of the programme of work and the programme budget for 2002-2003[3]

7. In order to reflect the provisions of the draft resolution, the narrative of section 4 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 would be modified to amend the outputs already foreseen in respect of small arms and light

weapons issues. Subject to the decision of the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, that narrative will be incorporated into the final version of the programme of work of section 4 of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

Outputs

Paragraph 4.29 (a)

Under servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies, add the following:

(x) First biennial meeting of States to consider the national, regional and global implementation of the Programme of action (2003);

(xi) Group of governmental experts on the feasibility of developing an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace illicit small arms and light weapons (1 session in 2002, 2 sessions in 2003);

Under parliamentary documentation, add the following:

Report on the implementation of the current resolution (1, 2002);

Paragraph 4.29 (b)

Under other substantive activities, add the following:

(vi) Design and establishment of a computerized database of information provided by States on a voluntary basis on implementation of the Programme of action on small arms and light weapons;

V. Estimates of resource requirements

A. Conference-servicing requirements

8. The conference-servicing requirements, at full cost, for three sessions of the group of governmental experts referred to in operative paragraph 10 of the draft resolution are estimated at $715,100. The conference-servicing requirements, at full cost, for the biennial meeting of States referred to in operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution are estimated at $362,600. The extent to which the Organization's capacity would need to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources can be determined only in the light of the calendar of conference and meetings for the biennium 2002-2003. However, provision is made under the relevant section for conference services of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 not only for meetings programmed at the time of budget preparation but also for meetings authorized subsequently, provided that the number and distribution of meetings are consistent with the pattern of meetings of past years. Consequently, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, no additional appropriation would be required for conference-servicing costs.

9. With regard to the Conference referred to in operative paragraph 1, to be convened no later than year 2006, it is not possible at this point to estimate the related conference-servicing requirements. If the General Assembly adopts the draft resolution and a mandate is given for the convening of such a conference, the

necessary resource requirements would have to be reflected in the context of the budget outline and the proposed programme budget for the relevant biennium.

B. Non-conference-servicing requirements

10. Current staff resources under section 4 of the proposed programme budget a e fully seized with activities as outlined in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003. Therefore, in order to prepare, organize and service the biennial meeting, the expert group meetings as well as to promote the Programme of action on small arms and light weapons, as described in paragraph 4 above, additional staff would be required for the Department for Disarmament Affairs as a consequence of operative paragraphs 2, 8 and 10. Consultancy services would also be required to provide expertise in addressing the issues to be considered by the biennial meeting of States and those to be considered by the group of governmental experts, including the preparation of the final reports and other documentation.

11. With respect to the request contained in operative paragraph 10, additional resources would also be required for the travel of up to 20 experts for three one-week meetings in New York.

12. With respect to operative paragraph 12, the establishment, upgrading and maintenance of the database for the purpose of collating and disseminating information received from States would require staff from the Department for Disarmament Affairs with political expertise, especially in the area of small arms and light weapons. Such expertise is currently not available within the Department for Disarmament Affairs.

13. With regard to the Conference referred to in operative paragraph 1, to be convened no later than 2006, it is not possible at this point to estimate the related resource requirements. If the General Assembly adopts the draft resolution and a mandate is given for the convening of such a conference, the necessary resource requirements would have to be reflected in the context of the budget outline and the proposed programme budget for the relevant biennium.

14. It is anticipated, therefore, that the work outlined in paragraphs 9, 10 and 11 above would require the establishment of one P-4 level post and one General Service (Other level) post as well as five workweeks of consultancy services and resources for travel of experts.

15. The additional requirements for the implementation of the programme of work outlined in paragraphs 9, 10, 11 and 12 are estimated at $559,800 as follows: $456,100 under section 4, Disarmament, $59,900 under section 27 D, Office of Central Support Services, and $43,800 under section 32, Staff assessment, offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment. The details of these requirements are as follows:

Posts	
P-4 level Political Affairs Officer	138 000
General Service (Other level)	79 000
	217 000
Consultants	
Biennial meeting	
Fee (2 workweeks @ $2,000 per week)	4 000
Travel $2,500 + $3,575 ($275 x 13 days) +160	6 200
Expert group	
Fee (3 workweeks @ $2,000 per week)	6 000
Travel $2,500 + $1,650 ($275 x 6 days) + $160 x 3 trips	12 900
	29 100
Ad hoc experts	
Travel of 20 participants to three five-day meetings $3,500 x 60	210 000
Common service costs	
Requirements in respect of 1 P-4 and 1 GS (OL)	59 900
Subtotal	**516 000**
Section 32, Staff assessment, offset by an equivalent amount under Income section 1, Income from staff assessment	43 800
Total	**559 800**

VI. Potential for absorption

16. No provision has been made under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 in relation to the Programme of action on small arms and light weapons. At this stage, and notwithstanding the use of the wording "within existing resources" in the draft resolution, these requirements could not be absorbed within the existing resources under section 4, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003. This position is consistent with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B and paragraph 66 of the first report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001,[4] as subsequently endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/249. Consequently, if additional funds are not provided, the mandated activities may not be implemented.

Annex

Estimates for the three sessions of Group of governmental experts, to be convened in 2002 and 2003 and the biennial meeting of States to be convened in 2003[a]

	Group of governmental experts	*Biennial meeting of States*	*Total estimates*
(a) Conference-servicing costs			
Meeting servicing	192 000	63 700	255 700
Pre-session documentation	108 500	59 200	167 700
In-session documentation	247 800	173 200	421 000
Post-session documentation	143 600	58 900	202 500
Other conference services	23 200	7 600	30 800
Subtotal (a)	**715 100**	**362 600**	**1 077 700**
(b) Non-conference servicing costs			
1 temporary post at the P-4 level for 24 work-months[b]	138 000		138 000
1 temporary post at the GS (OL) level for 24 work-months[b]	79 000		79 000
Consultants (3 workweeks for the biennial meeting and 3 workweeks for the expert group)	10 200	18 900	29 100
Travel of participants to the expert group meetings (20 participants)	210 000		210 000
Common service costs in respect of 1 P-4 and 1 GS (OL)	59 900		59 900
Subtotal (b)	**497 100**	**18 900**	**516 000**
Total net	**1 212 200**	**381 500**	**1 533 800**
(c) Staff assessment	43 800		43 800
Grand total (gross)	**1 256 000**	**381 500**	**1 637 500**

[a] All figures are rounded to the nearest $100.

[b] The incumbent of the post will undertake work related to both the expert groups and the 2003 biennial meetings of States, as well as other work related to the implementation of the Programme of Action.